Finger Lakes Chapter #29 Founded March 29, 1966 W2PPS

October 2015 Newsletter

Chapter Information

President	John McKee-WB2YGN	62 Pulsifer Drive	Auburn, NY 13021	252-8178
Treas./Sec.	Gary Kimball-WB2SER	6931 Canton Street	Warners, NY 13164	638-1022
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Newsletter Archive: www.qcwa.org/chapter029.htm

September Meeting

Even though several of the chapter's regular attendees were out of town or could not otherwise attend, we had a good-sized group at our September meeting on the 25th. Those present were: John McKee-WB2YGN; Gary Kimball-WB2SER; Craig Cobb-WA2ZVN; Dan O'Shea-N2MRE; Ken Blume-K2UPI and XYL Diane; Fred Legawiec-W2LGA; Frank Wiethuechter-K2RSY; Jerry Wright-NK2C; Gerry Storrs-K2QJB; Harold Ferguson-KE2FV; Fred Herbs-WB2PEM; Paul Hammond-K2QCG; Tom Sly-K2QCX; Steve Auyer-N2TKX; Gerry Voorhies-KA2DDN; Walt Bordett-N2IK; Charles Abbott-K2IWQ; Hugo "Bud" Keller-K2HH; Bob Goettel-WA2LBG; Bill Kimbell-W2TYO; Ron Walter-N2DMP; Doug Falcon-N2JOM and Earl Dewey-KB2VSJ.

WB2YGN opened the meeting by welcoming back K2HH who hasn't been able to attend for some time. K2HH says that he has largely recovered from his problems but still has a few balance issues – good to have you back with us Bud! Also mentioned were Al Obrist-N2AO, Lou Agresti-W2OPF and John Soergel-WA2DGC who have not always been able to attend our meetings recently. K2RSY suggested that it would be nice to send those who miss a meeting a card signed by all present. N2TKX responded that he had, in fact, bought several cards to bring to the meeting to be signed and sent out. But as his memory is failing in his old age he forgot to bring them.

Happily there was only a single SK to be mentioned this month – Donald Gardener-W2VIV whose obituary appears later in this newsletter.

Moving on to local happenings:

ILLW – W2LGA provided a short recap of the operations from the Verona Beach lighthouse on August 15th and 16th. Plans are already underway for the 2016 event which will feature operation from INSIDE the lighthouse and an antenna strung from the top of the 80' lighthouse to a nearby tree. Stay tuned.

RAGS – The next meeting is on October 8th and will be a Show-n-Tell since last year's meeting on this topic was so well received. NK2C commented that you can "BRING your girlfriend. SHOW her off. And TELL about what you've been doing." Or something like that….. Nearly everyone present complained that they had brought "wads of cash" to purchase tickets to the 2016 RAGS hamfest but were unable to do so since WA2AEW was not there to sell them. Just kidding Roger.

LARC – The meeting the previous evening began with a great hands-on demonstration of some digital modes by K2VGN, followed by a presentation by N2TKX on the Raytheon company that traced their products from tubes to transistors. The next meeting will be on October 22nd and will be the fall auction.

HAMFESTS – WB2SER reminded us that the Elmira hamfest the next day would be the last big one for 2015. Earlier that morning, beginning at 6am the Bear Bait Radio Club will be hosting their Tailgate Fest beginning at 6am at the Town of Clay Senior Center – somehow we missed getting this on the calendar, we'll try to do better next year. WB2SER suggested that you could hit the Bear Bait Fest at 6am for an hour or so and then head down to Elmira. That prompted a series of groans from the non-early risers. N2MRE told us

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that the Marathon Winterfest which is traditionally held on the second Saturday in January may move to the third January in 2016. Stay tuned.

NY QSO Party – W2LGA reminded us that this is a 12-hour event, sponsored by RaRa, beginning at 10am on October 17th (flyer later in this newsletter). If you haven't operated in this before it's a fun, relaxed chance to see how many New York State counties you can work. (There are 62.)

There was plenty of activity in the Show-n-Tell category. At the last meeting KB2DIO had brought in a small inexpensive SDR receiver that had just come on the market and passed it around (see the writeup on the CountyComm GP-5 SSB radio later in this newsletter). That prompted K2QCX to buy one for himself and he brought his in to demonstrate and report that he was impressed with its performance and small size. In the photo below from left to right: K2QCX; WB2YGN and WA2LBG.

K2QJB brought in a Taylor T-20/T-20Z tube to pass around and that prompted discussion of what the difference was between a -20 and a -20Z. (The "Z" stands for zero bias.) Someone asked whether you could still buy a T-20, and the response was that yes, you could, but it would probably come from Russia and be a re-branded 6L6.

K2QJB also brought in an early carbon-filament "Edison" light bulb manufactured by General Electric that was very carefully passed around to be admired. N2TKX had been cleaning out some items from his basement, had come across two modern reproductions of early light bulbs, and brought them in as door prizes. After his XYL Diane won one of the reproductions as a door prize, K2UPI and K2QJB got together to compare the original to the reproduction.

WB2YGN discussed the need to elect a new set of officers for the chapter to take office in January of 2016. Positions to be filled are the President (WB2YGN incumbent) and Secretary/Treasurer (WB2SER incumbent). While WB2SER has indicated a willingness to serve for another year, WB2YGN has now served for five years and would really, really, really like to turn the position over to another member. Compared to many other QCWA chapters that have become inactive or have seen their attendance gradually diminish, our chapter has been holding its own and we'd like to see this continue. So please think about whether you would be willing to serve a term as President. Other than spending about an hour once a month running the meetings, and getting yelled at if you don't start on time, the position really doesn't require a huge amount of work.

N2MRE and K2HH were having an interesting discussion of K2HH's WW2 service on lighter-than-air craft, patrolling the Atlantic and Caribbean on the lookout

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for German submarines. More details on this is later in this newsletter

K2HH purchased tickets for the 50/50 raffle from WB2SER after being assured that he would be holding the winning ticket. Unfortunately K2HH lost to Tom "I never win these things" Sly-K2QCX who donated his winnings to the club.

W2LGA brought in a number of ICOM ballpoint pens (Yes, they do work!) and band plans that were available for all to take. The door prizes of the reproduction antique light bulbs were won by K2IWQ and K2UPI's XYL Diane. And with that the meeting was adjourned. See You Next Month!

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Birthdays

October

9th—Mark Chamberlin-WB2PKO
26th—John Storsberg-WA2U

November

7th—Henry Hampel-KA0TUP
28th—Ike Hathaway-K2IH

December

5th—David Moon-N2RGU
24th—Richard Holley-W2QJH
30th—Ken Blume-K2UPI

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SK

Donald H. Gardner-W2VIV, 77 of Fulton passed away peacefully on Monday, September 7, after a long illness. He was a lifelong resident of Fulton, born to the late George and Grace Hollenbeck Gardner. Throughout the 1960s, Don served as a Fulton City Police Officer. He then transferred to the Fulton City Fire Department and retired in 1993 as the Assistant Fire Chief. He had also served as the chief of the Cody Volunteer Fire Department several times. Don was honored to serve his community and proud of his son and grandson who followed in his footsteps within fire service. He was a member of the Hiram Masonic Lodge #144 and was an avid member of the Fulton Amateur Radio Club. He was predeceased by a brother, Robert. Don is survived by his wife of 55 years, Karen Kiblin Gardner of Fulton; one son, Robert (Carla) Gardner of Fulton; two grandchildren, Kelsey Gardner and Kyler Gardner, both of Fulton. Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Monday, September 14 at Foster Funeral Home, Fulton. Burial will follow at Jacksonville Cemetery, Lysander. Calling hours will be 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, September 13 at the funeral home, 910 Fay St., Fulton. Contributions in Don's memory made be made to Fulton Firefighter's Association, 170 S. Second St., Fulton or Cody Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 334, Fulton, 13069.

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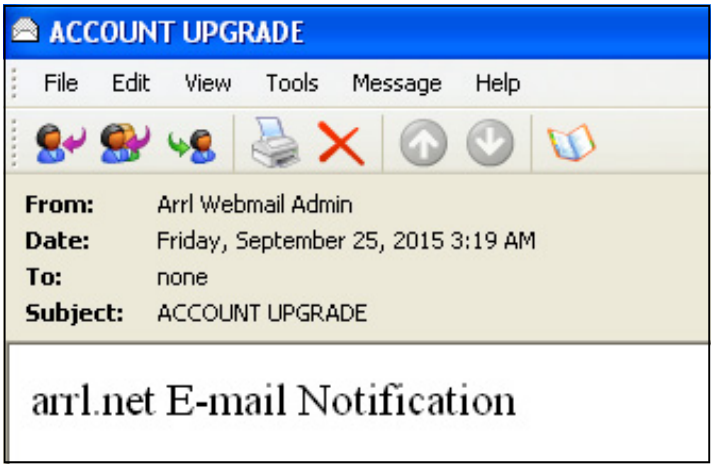
Ignore This E-mail!

If you open your e-mail program and find the following e-mail in your Inbox:



You do **not** want to follow the instructions that it contains. This e-mail was **not** sent to you from the ARRL, it actually came from an e-mail server somewhere in Ohio. The information that the e-mail asks you to send them will allow them to open up your ARRL account and change the password so that you can no longer access it. They will also have access to the following personal information:

Callsign
Name
Home address
Home e-mail address
Home phone number
Date of birth

The ARRL is aware of this fraud and their IT Department is working on the problem. So we'll have to see what the ARRL comes up with. But in the meantime do **not** respond to the fake e-mail shown below by providing any of the information it requests.

"arrl.net E-mail Notification

This message is from arrl.net messaging center to all arrl.net email account owners. We are removing access to all our mail clients. Your email account will be upgraded to a new enhanced web mail user interface provided by arrl.net.

Effective from the moment this email has been received and response received from you. arrl.net will discontinue the use of our arrl.net mail and our arrl.net mail Lite interfaces.

To ensure your e-mail address book is saved in our database. Please click the reply button and enter your arrl.net

username here :( )
Password here :( )
City :( )
Country of Residence :( )

And send it back to us, which will enable us to transfer your contacts to our new Web mail client database. All e-mails will be safe in this transition! All your old email will still be there and you will have new unread messages waiting for you.

We are confident that you will like the new and improved web mail interface. Failure to comply with this notice immediately will remove your access from our arrl.net database. Thank you for using arrl.net.

Yours Sincerely,
arrl.net Web-mail Services"

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CountyComm GP-5 SSB Radio

This is the radio that KB2DIO brought to the last meeting and which WB2YGN, K2QCX and WA2LBG were pictured inspecting during the September meet-

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ing.

Following are the specifications for the radio taken from the **www.CountyComm.com/gp5ssb.html** web site. They've been slightly edited to improve readability, (CountyComm does not appear to be a world-class aerospace firm.) Their website describes the GP-5 SSB as follows:

"The new GP-5 SSB radio is made based on a continued request for a excellent quality general purpose information radio. These radios are remodified for a specific client request with the help of Edison Fong PHD. We have a few left over to offer to our consumer preppers. Remember, always have a radio and be prepared, we are living in changing times."

And the price? Well, you can buy one for $75 plus shipping which will run about another $10.

Specifications

- Battery Life: 225 hrs at 40% Volume
- Antenna Length: 18 Inches
- Station Memories: 450
- Tuning Methods: ATS, ETM, Auto scan tuning with 5 seconds pre-listening for both frequency & memory (VF / VM), Manual tuning 9K/10K AM tuning step selectable
- Silicon Labs Si4734 DSP chipset **(see pg. 8)**
- LCD Backlight
- Key lock function
- External AM antenna Jack
- Size: 53mm x 159mm x 26mm, 6.20" x 2.05" x .80"
- Weight: 85 Grams not including batteries
- Speaker: 40mm diameter, 4 Ohms, .5 watt
- Modes: AM, FM, SW, USB, LSB
- FM: 87–108 or 76–108 MHz
- MW/AM: 522 - 1620 (9K tuning step), 520 – 1710 kHz (10K tuning step)
- SW: Extended Frequency Range to 1711-29999
- LW frequency: 150 – 522 kHz (available for 9K tuning step only)

Included

- Radio
- Stereo earphones, 3.5mm plug
- External AM antenna
- Soft antenna
- Carrying pouch
- User manual

Power

- 4.5 Volts DC via side jack (no adapter included)
- 3 "AA" batteries (not included)
- Built-in rechargeable function (USB jack, 5V)

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K2HH on LTA Service

I enlisted in the NAVY V6 program in February of 1942 (radar) sent to LTA (Lighter Than Air) Lakehurst NJ, thence to ZP-51 Trinidad & British Guiana in March of 1943. We had no hangar—serviced the ships on the mooring mast. Throughout 1942, German subs were sinking ships out of the Guianas carrying bauxite

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ZP-51 First LTA Squadron

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ore, the basis of aluminum. We lost no more bauxite ships. Our blimps K-ships were 295 feet long, carried a crew of seven, and were equipped with radar and magnetic detectors (MAD). I flew 800 hours and then went back to Lakehurst after 18 months.

Living Quarters in British Guiana

I was sent to a reunion in Trinidad in 1992 and learned from a Kriegsmariner (German WW2 Navy) that German Admiral Raeder who came to Kriegsmarine from German Lighter Than Air issued orders to his U-boat fleet to evade - not engage - our LTA. This without doubt saved us big losses.

73, Bud-K2HH

Natives in British Guiana

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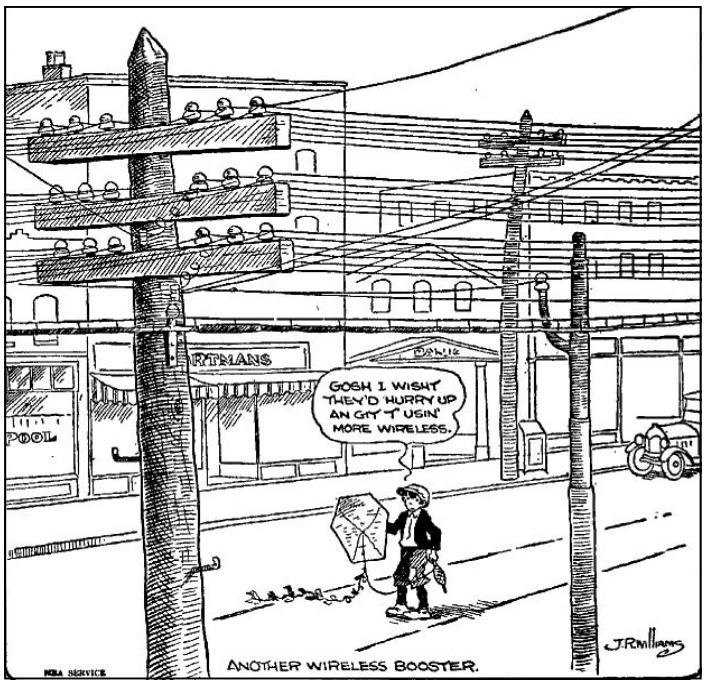
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More From The W2RXW Scrapbook

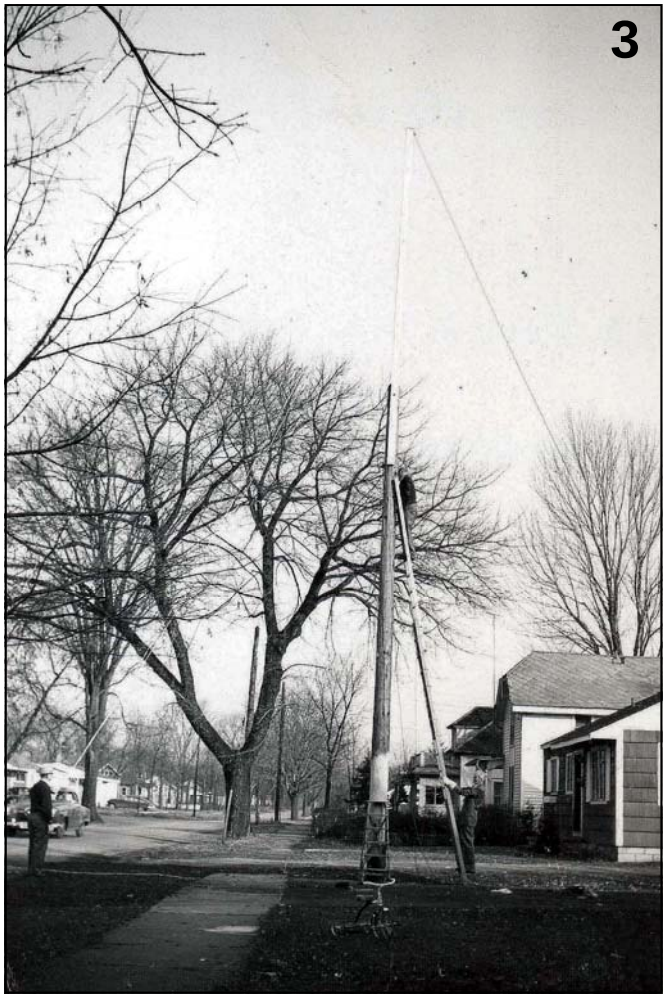
These photos were taken during the installation of a tower at W2RXW's QTH at 405 Sayles Street in Oneida, NY back in 1952. Those were the days when you didn't have to worry about building codes or protective covenants—you just went ahead, stuck a pole in the ground, and put up you antenna. Apparently those were also the days when you didn't work about safety harnesses—but that's another story.

In the photos are:

1—Walter Babcock-W2RXW on the ladder, Harding Clark-W2PGT standing to the left of the ladder.

2—W2RXW on the ladder, W2PGT at the left of the ladder, Fran Thisse-W2BJI holding the ladder.

3—W2RXW on the ladder, W2PGT holding the ladder.



Si4730/31/34/35-D60

Broadcast AM/FM/SW/LW Radio Receiver

Features

- Worldwide FM band support (64–108 MHz)
- Worldwide AM band support (520–1710 kHz)
- SW band support (Si4734/35) (2.3–26.1 MHz)
- LW band support (Si4734/35) (153–279 kHz)
- Excellent real-world performance
- Integrated VCO
- Advanced AM/FM seek tuning
- Automatic frequency control (AFC)
- Automatic gain control (AGC)
- Digital FM stereo decoder
- Programmable de-emphasis
- Advanced Audio Processing
- Seven selectable AM channel filters
- AM/FM/SW/LW digital tuning
- EN55020 compliant
- No manual alignment necessary
- Programmable reference clock
- Adjustable soft mute control
- RDS/RBDS processor (Si4731/35)
- Digital audio out
- 2-wire and 3-wire control interface
- Integrated LDO regulator
- Wide range of ferrite loop sticks and air loop antennas supported
- QFN and SSOP packages
  - RoHS compliant

This chip is the "guts" of the GP-5 SSB radio.

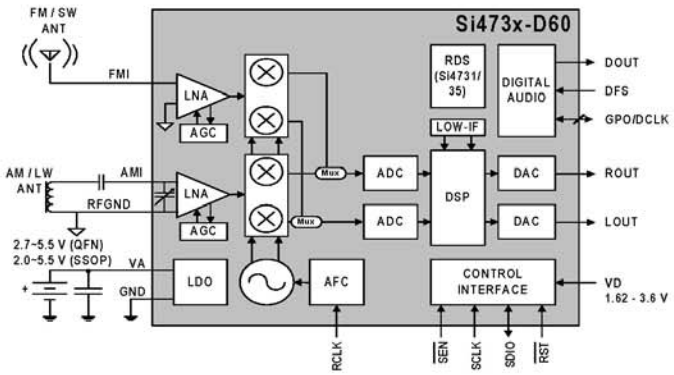
Applications

- Table and portable radios
- Mini/micro systems
- CD/DVD and Blu-ray players
- Stereo boom boxes
- Modules for consumer electronics
- Clock radios
- Mini HiFi and docking stations
- Entertainment systems

Description

The Si473x-D60 digital CMOS AM/FM radio receiver IC integrates the complete broadcast tuner and receiver function from antenna input to digital audio output. The device leverages the Silicon Labs broadcast proven digital low-IF architecture, enabling a cost-effective, digital audio platform for consumer electronic applications with high TDMA noise immunity, superior radio performance, and high fidelity audio power amplification.

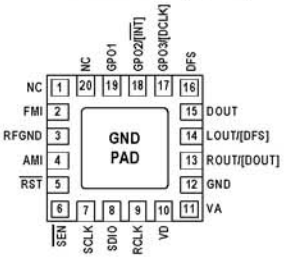
Functional Block Diagram



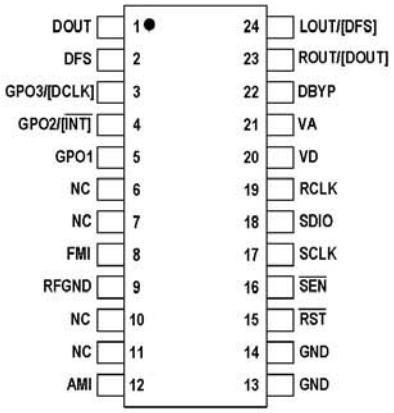
Ordering Information:
See page 31.

Pin Assignments

Si473x-D60 (QFN)



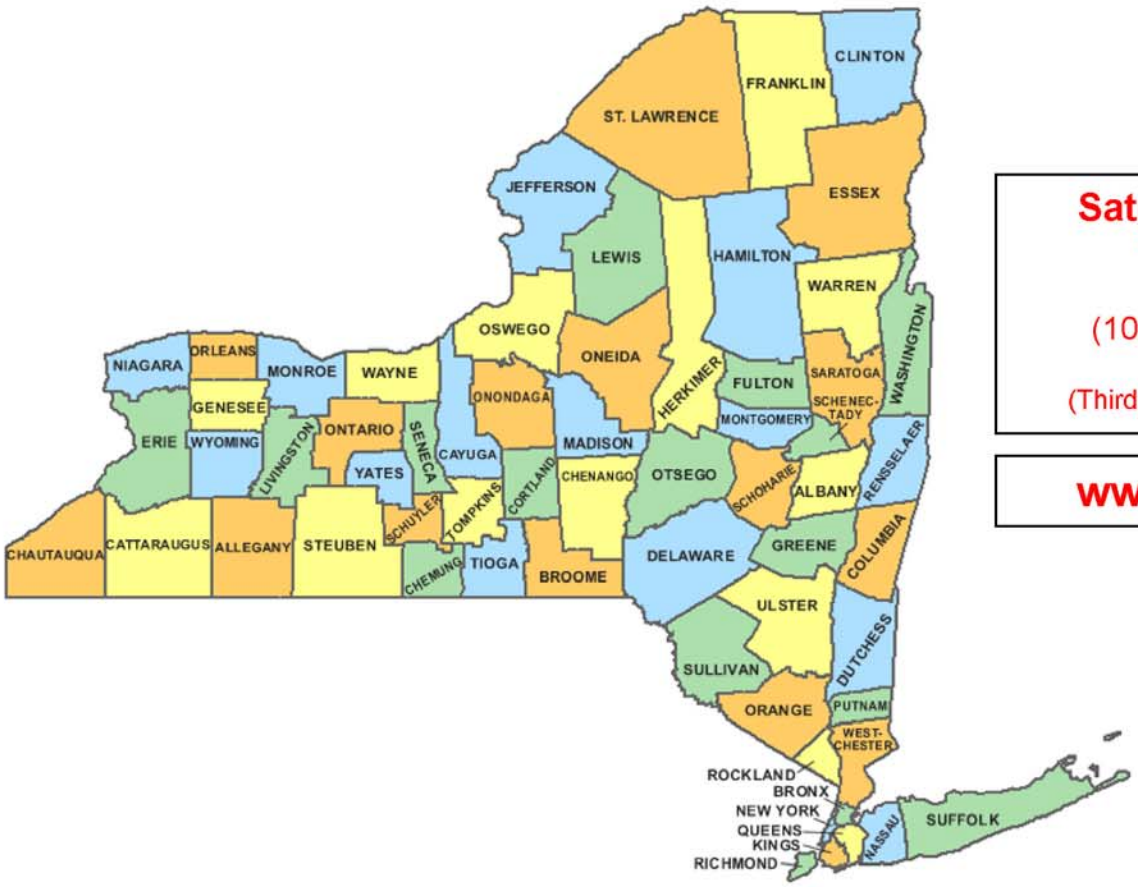
Si473x-D60(SSOP)



This product, its features, and/or its architecture is covered by one or more of the following patents, as well as other patents, pending and issued, both foreign and domestic: 7,127,217; 7,272,373; 7,272,375; 7,321,324; 7,355,476; 7,426,376; 7,471,940; 7,339,503; 7,339,504.

2015
New York QSO Party

Phone – CW – RTTY/Digital



Saturday, Oct. 17
1400 UTC

(10:00 AM Eastern)
12 Hours
(Third Saturday in October)

www.NYQP.org

OBJECT

- Stations in New York State may work everyone.
- Stations outside of New York State work as many NY stations in as many NY counties as possible
- Stations may be contacted on multiple bands and modes subject to entry class.

October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 •Gold Star Mother's Day •*7p—RAGS Net, 3.918LSB*	*28* •7p—Hobby/Info Net, 146.67R	*29* •7:30p—QCWA 6M Net, 53.05R	*30* •7:30p—MOARC Meeting (last •7p—Swap Net, 147.00R	*1*	*2*	*3* •7:30p—SSTV Net, 146.67R
4 •*7p—RAGS Net, 3.918LSB*	*5* •Child Health Day •7p—Hobby/Info Net, 146.67R 	*6* •7p—Rome ARC Meeting (1st) •7:30p—QCWA 6M Net, 53.05R	*7* •7p—Swap Net, 147.00R	*8* •7p—RAGS Meeting "Show 'n Tell" (2nd) •7p—Utica ARC Meeting (2nd)	*9* •Leif Erickson Day 	*10* •7:30p—SSTV Net, 146.67R
11 •*7p—RAGS Net, 3.918LSB*	*12* •7p—Hobby/Info Net, 146.67R	*13* •7p—Rome ARC VE Session (2nd) •7:30p—QCWA 6M Net, 53.05R	*14* •7:30p—Skyline ARC Meeting (2nd) •7p—Swap Net, 147.00R	*15* •White Cane Safety Day 	*16* •Boss's Day •7pm—MOARC VE Session (3rd) •Scouts Jamboree on the Air 	*17* •7:30p—SSTV Net, 146.67R •Scouts Jamboree on the Air •NY QSO Party
18 •*HOSARC Hamfest, Queens* •*7p—RAGS Net, 3.918LSB* •Scouts Jamboree on the Air •NY QSO Party 	*19* •School Club Roundup •7p—Hobby/Info Net, 146.67R 	*20* •School Club Roundup •7:30p—QCWA 6M Net, 53.05R 	*21* •School Club Roundup •7p—Swap Net, 147.00R 	*22* •School Club Roundup •5:30p—LARC VE Session •6:15p—W2CM Bootcamp •7p—LARC Meeting "Auction"	*23* •School Club Roundup 	*24* •7:30p—SSTV Net, 146.67R
25 •*LIMARC Hamfest, Hicksville* •*7p—RAGS Net, 3.918LSB*	*26* •7p—Hobby/Info Net, 146.67R	*27* •7:30p—QCWA 6M Net, 53.05R	*28* •7:30p—MOARC Meeting (last) •6p—Fulton ARC VE Session (4th) •7p—Fulton ARC Meeting •7p—Swap Net, 147.00R	*29*	*30* QCWA •Pumpkin Patrol •11:30a—QCWA Luncheon, Denny's (last) 	*31* •Halloween •Pumpkin Patrol •ARRL EME Contest •7:30p—SSTV Net, 146.67R